MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 DECEMBER 1982

Lebanon-Israel Negotiations

Talks Scheduled -- The first and second sessions of the Lebanon-Israel negotiations are scheduled to be held on 28 December in Khaldah and on 30 December in Qiryat Shemona, according to reports broadcast by both Beirut and IDF radios. The talks will subsequently be held 2 days each week, on Mondays in Khaldah and on Thursdays in Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem television reported.

Reasons For Delay -- "A most reliable source" told the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ that the main factor in delaying the start of the talks was Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's insistence that the Lebanese Government's representatives sign a written document before direct negotiations began. Although the Lebanese representatives refused to sign the document formulated during previous talks with the defense minister, over the weekend "authoritative figures in President al-Jumayyil's government" reconfirmed their support for the agreement, and the Israeli Government decided to begin direct negotiations, Jerusalem radio reported. Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan claimed on 24 December that the Israelis made new proposals "daily," thus causing the negotiations to be delayed, Beirut radio reported. However, the Israeli Cabinet secretary asserted on 26 December that there had been no change in the Israeli position since the government approved the document a week ago, Jerusalem radio reported.

Agenda, Lebanese Approval -- The Israeli defense minister announced at the 26 December Cabinet meeting that when the negotiations begin Israel will propose a draft agreement on normalization, the security arrangements, and the order of the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon, Jerusalem radio revealed. Noting that Lebanon has not formally ratified the working paper, THE JERUSALEM POST reported that Lebanon has apparently drafted its own agenda. Nevertheless, Sharon is confident that President Amin al-Jumayyil firmly supports the working paper and that key Muslim leaders in Lebanon acknowledge the paper as the basis of the eventual Israel-Lebanon accord, the paper added. The Tel Aviv daily YEDI'OT AHARONOT believes that Israel and Lebanon have achieved "a far-reaching understanding, even before the first official meeting," Jerusalem radio reported in its review of press editorials.

Israeli Reaction -- In a 24 December interview broadcast by IDF radio, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister David Levi termed Sharon's assistance in promoting the talks "most welcome," but cautioned against "euphoria and complacency" because there are still many details to be worked out. Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres praised the Cabinet's decision to change its stand on venue, on the level of the negotiators as well as on its demand for a peace treaty as "wise and timely," and stated that he expects the negotiations to achieve positive results, Jerusalem radio reported on 23 December. However, several ministers attending the 26 December Cabinet meeting, notably Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori, criticized Sharon for the premature publicity the agreement received, Jerusalem radio revealed.

PLO, Syrian Withdrawal -- After meeting with two official Lebanese envoys to discuss their recent talks in Tunis with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Executive Committee member Salah Khalaf, the Lebanese prime minister announced that the PLO's stands are "positive" and will not prevent Lebanon from reaching its goal, Beirut radio revealed. The envoys were told that the Palestinian forces in the Al-Biqa' and the north will withdraw as soon as Israel withdraws, Beirut radio declared. Although the radio report noted that Syria had earlier conveyed a "similar" stand to the Lebanese president, the Tel Aviv daily MA'ARIV claimed on 24 December that Syria and the lebanese left are exerting heavy pressure on Al-Jumayyil and Al-Wazzan

and are threatening Lebanese Government leaders in an effort to undermine the negotiations

Khaldah Security Situation -- Lebanese Army troops and a U.S. unit from the multinational force have assumed positions at the Khaldah Hotel, where the Lebanese-Israeli talks are scheduled to begin on 28 December, the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ reported on 24 December. IDF forces intervened in Khaldah on 23 December to prevent further Christian-Druze clashes, and on 25 December the two groups agreed to maintain a cease-fire, according to Jerusalem radio reports. Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported shelling and sniper fire in the Khaldah area on 24 December, in what the Voice of Lebanon radio described as "violent clashes." However, another Voice of Lebanon report stated that the situation eased later in the day when "leftists socialists" left the area. Three Phalangists were killed and four of their military vehicles were burned when Phalangist militias tried to advance from Khaldah toward Ash-Shuwayfat; local residents prevented another Phalangist militia unit from advancing toward Ad-Dawam to set up roadblocks in the Khaldah area, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported. Tense calm prevailed in the Khaldan area on 25 December according to Beirut radio, but both Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported renewed clashes on 26 December.

Sidon Explosions -- An IDF spokesman announced that two IDF soldiers were killed and one was injured following an explosion near an IDF position in the area of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, Jerusalem radio reported on 23 December. According to AFP reports, six Israeli soldiers were killed and two Lebanese civilians were wounded when a rocket was fired at the Israeli army's civilian assistance headquarters located near the refugee camp south of Sidon. Israeli forces surrounded the Lebanese Army barracks in Sidon on 24 December and detained the barracks commander for several hours, Beirut Voice of Lebanon reported.

A bomb exploded near the Phalangist Party building in Sidon on 26 December, but there were no casualties, Jerusalem radio reported. The military governor's headquarters north of Sidon was attacked by men armed with RPG's and machineguns on 26 December, Beirut radio reported. Preliminary reports indicate that four people were killed and six were injured, the radio added.

Syria

Ba'th Party Statement -- The statement issued at the end of the 18-23 December Ba'th Party Central Committee meeting and broadcast by Damascus television reiterated Syria's stand against the Camp David policy and against attempts to force the Arabs to surrender. The statement stressed the importance of continuing to promote relations with the socialist states, particularly the USSR.

Defense Minister Statement -- Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas declared at a military graduation ceremony on 23 December that because of the support Syria receives from its friends in the world, especially the USSR, Syrian forces now have the necessary skills and capabilities to achieve victory over Israel, SANA reported.

Jordan

Following the second and final round of talks he held with President Reagan in Washington on 23 December, King Husayn declared that the visit was "very successful," Amman radio reported. President Reagan described the talks as extremely fruitful and affirmed that a peace dialogue had started, the radio added. Nevertheless, Jerusalem radio revealed that Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, told Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir that no breakthrough was achieved during the Jordanian monarch's Washington visit. King Husayn was not

tempted by the "many concessions" Washington was prepared to make, the Tel Aviv daily MA'ARIV observed.

Egypt

A group of political and legal specialists in the Foreign Ministry and other groups concerned with the Tabah problem met to discuss the issue on 25 December, Cairo radio reported. The group emphasized Egypt's full sovereignty over the area, and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali approved their plan of action to safeguard Egypt's rights to the area, the radio added.

Zhao Ziyang Tour

PRC State Council Premier Zhao Ziyang and the delegation accompanying him departed Egypt for Algeria on 24 December, according to Cairo and Algiers radio reports. The PRC premier discussed bilateral relations with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid during a working luncheon on 24 December, Algiers radio reported. Official talks were held on 25 and 26 December, other Algiers reports indicated. PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Algiers on 26 December and met with the PRC premier that evening, Algiers reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Sporadic clashes on various fronts continued throughout the weekend, according to military communiques broadcast by Tehran and Baghdad radios and INA. Iranian forces halted Iraqi movement on the Al-Faw-Basra road and foiled all violations of Iranian airspace, Tehran radio claimed on 24 December. Iraqi fighter planes carried out 74 successful combat missions on 25-26 December, "paralyzing" Iran's air defense command and control centers and destroying other important military targets in the southern battlefronts, Baghdad radio asserted.

Gulf Affairs

Yusuf al-Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, told AFP that he foresees no future changes in Oman's agreements with the United States despite the agreement Oman recently signed with the PDRY. The minister claimed that the PDRY's recent protests over the U.S. military maneuvers in the area did not question the agreement, but were probably prompted by the PDRY's foreign relations, AFP added. Although the minister admitted that the Gulf countries do not want U.S. and Soviet presence in the Indian Ocean, he declared that they do seek an "equilibrium of forces" to maintain stability in the area.

Pakistan-India

Pakistan and India signed an agreement to establish a joint commission on bilateral relations, Delhi radio reported on 24 December. A joint panel chaired by the two countries' foreign ministers will meet once a year to strengthen bilateral understanding and cooperation, the radio added. Pakistan proposed several "important amendments" concerning mutual relations, which were added to the Indian draft, Karachi radio reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL, KESHTMAND RETURN FROM USSR 26 DECEMBER

LD270002 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, after taking part in the 60th founding anniversary of the USSR, returned to Kabul this morning. They had gone to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The aircraft carrying Babrak Karmal and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand landed at 1155 at Kabul International Airport and a number of pioneers welcomed them with bunches of flowers. They also were welcomed by Politburo members, secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, deputy presidents of the Revolutionary Council and of the Revolutionary Council Presidium, the ministers of foreign affairs and transportation, and the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

RESISTANCE TO STEP UP BOMBING CAMPAIGN IN KABUL

BK250636 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 24 Dec 82

[Text] Islamabad, Dec. 24 (AFP) -- The Afghan resistance will step up its bombing campaign against government targets in the country's capital, Kabul, the chairman of the fundamentalist mujahadeen alliance Abd ar-Rasul Sayyaf claimed here Sunday.

Official reports said about 40 people died in a series of bombings over the last month in Kabul.

Mr. Sayyaf refused to say whether the resistance was planning a spectacular action for December 27, the third anniversary of the entry of Soviet troops into Afghanistan. He rejected any political solution to the conflict and said his movement's "holy war" would continue until an Islamic government was in place in Kabul. He added that even if agreement was reached between Afghan authorities and Pakistan for the return of refugees and the banning of political activity by resistance groups in Pakistan, the mujahadeen would continue the fight on Afghan soil.

Mr. Sayyaf rejected an alliance with the other, more moderate resistance groups, whose leaders, he said, "represent only themselves." He admitted there had been fighting recently between different factions of the resistance, but that good relations were now reestablished.

MINISTRY OFFICIAL CITES 'BETTER SECURITY'

LD231556 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0429 GMT 22 Dec 82

[Text] Kabul, Dec 22, BAKHTAR -- Better security prevails today all over Afghanistan and the ground is paved for peaceful living conditions every day due to the revolutionary efforts and vigilance of the security forces and the Army of the DRA with honest cooperation of the noble people of Afghanistan, said Mohammad Faruq, general president of political affairs of the Interior Ministry to BIA correspondent.

He said that our police force is fully staffed and equipped with the most up to date weapons and other combat equipments.

Faruq added that in Badakhshan, Laghman, Nangarhar, Kandahar, Herat, Kunduz and Faryab Provinces considerable victories have been achieved in crushing the counterrevolutionaries.

M. Faruq said in conclusion that the unity of the party, the state and the people is strengthening every day. The counterrevolution is hated by our toiling peoples and the deceived persons are joining the ranks of defenders of our revolution in groups.

REBELS, WEAPONS REPORTED CAPTURED IN VILLAGES

LD262132 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Text] A number of counterrevolutionary elements who were disrupting the peace and security of the toiling people in a number of villages of Keshem, Kahan and Baharak Districts, Badakhshan Province, were crushed recently by the Armed Forces with the cooperation of the people of those villages; 25 were captured.

According to another report, Logar Province security forces have crushed several groups of these criminals, including their ringleader, Tor Abas, in the Qal'eh-ye Saber region and other regions of that province, capturing 24 of these plunderers.

According to the security forces in these provinces, 22 assorted weapons and 5,000 rounds of ammunition, 3 antitank mines and 2 12.7-mm Degtyarev heavy machineguns were seized in Badakhshan Province and 4 weapons, 1 rocket launcher with 6 shells, a number of antipersonnel mines and several rounds of ammunition were seized in Lowgar Province.

KARMAL APPROVES REDUCED PRISON SENTENCES

LD261534 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Text] Tomorrow, 27 December, corresponds with the auspicious day of the birth of Mohammad, the prophet of Islam. To celebrate this auspicious day, tomorrow is a public holiday in the country and our faithful compatriots are celebrating the birthday of their great leader Hazrat-e Mohammad, peace be upon him and on his family.

In respect for this auspicious day, the remaining terms of the sentences of a number of male and female prisoners in the country have been remitted by the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium. The Revolutionary Council Secretariat reported that a decree confirming the remission of the prison sentences of the aforementioned male and female prisoners has been approved by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and communicated to the relevant departments for implementation.

GRAIN SUPPLY PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH USSR

LD221832 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Dec 82

[Text] The Soviet Union will give Afghanistan about 100,000 tons of wheat and 11,000 tons of flour as grant in aid during 1983. Another 100,000 tons of wheat will be delivered to the Afghan side in exchange for goods.

According to an agreement between the Afghan and Soviet delegations, concerning the exchange of goods between the two countries for 1983, foodstuffs amount to some 211,000 tons. The contract for 100,000 tons of wheat as grant in aid and the contract for the purchase of 40,000 tons of wheat out of the 100,000 tons included in the protocol recently was signed between the Afghan and Soviet authorities in Kabul.

The contracts were signed on the DRA side by the head of the Foodstuff and Supply Department and on the Soviet side by the Vestorintorg representative; relevant documents were exchanged.

Under the protocol, the delivery of wheat in 1983 will ensure that the country's grain requirement in 1983 will be met completely.

ZIAUL HAQ RETURNS FROM U.S., CANADA 26 DEC

BK261611 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Excerpts] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq was accorded a very warm welcome when he returned home this afternoon after his successful visits to the United States and Canada. Thousands of people, lining both sides of the road from the Islamabad Airport to the chief of army staff house, accorded a warm and hearty welcome to the president.

During his brief talks with newsmen at the airport, the president said that on the way home he made a brief stopover in Abu Dhabi and had talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

The Radio Pakistan representative has learned that during the hour-long meeting the two leaders discussed bilateral relations and various international issues. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq informed Shaykh Zayid of his talks in the United States and Canada.

IRANIAN INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES 25 DEC

BK251605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Dec 82

[Text] Iranian Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri arrived in Islamabad this evening on a week's visit to Pakistan. He is accompanied by a six-member delegation. Federal Interior Minister Mahmud A. Haroon welcomed him at the airport.

Talking to newsmen later, Nateq-Nuri demanded immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan. He said the Afghan people should be given an opportunity to choose their own destiny. Nateq-Nuri said Pakistan-Iran relations are very friendly and he will hold talks with his Pakistani counterpart during his stay. He also will visit Peshawar, Quetta and Lahore.

HABIB CHATTI ARRIVES FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH ZIA

BK261125 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Text] Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference [OIC] Habib Chatti has said he would have consultations with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on a number of problems facing the Muslim world including the question of Palestine, the Iran-Iraq war and Afghanistan.

Talking to newsmen on his arrival at the Islamabad Airport this morning, he said Pakistan was one of the true supporters of the OIC and was always concerned about the problems confronting the Muslim world. Regarding the Palestine and the Al-Quds problems, Chatti said there has been some progress toward finding a solution to these at the Fes Arab summit and President Reagan's plan. He said the ummah peace committee on ending the Iran-Iraq war was still trying to bring about a cease-fire. If they have not succeeded so far, it does not mean that they have failed. Chatti said he would also discuss the Afghanistan problem with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq who had recently visited Moscow and was seeking a solution of the problem through the United Nations.

Habib Chatti said he would discuss the dates for the holding of the first meeting of the science and technology committee of the OIC which is headed by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He said the Al-Quds committee of which Pakistan is also a member and the OIC committee on information will meet next month. He said yet another committee, the economic committee, would also meet some time next year. He said all these committees have to finalize their work before the next Islamic summit to be held in Morocco in January 1984. It will be preceded by the Islamic foreign ministers conference in December 1983.

COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR SOVIET AFGHAN WITHDRAWAL

LD261910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Communique issued by the Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry on the anniversary of the "military occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union"]

[Text] In His exalted name. Tomorrow, 27 December 1982, marks the Soviet Union's occupying forces' hegemonic move against the oppressed and Muslim people of Afghanistan. Three years ago on this very day these forces, armed and equipped with the most modern military equipment, rolled over the territory of the Muslim and brother Afghanistan, hoping to impose an unwanted regime on the valiant Muslim Afghans. In addition, they revealed their aggressor face and provided the justification for the intervention and the presence of a Western superpower in the region.

The heroic nation of Afghanistan, in following the supreme Islamic principles -- holding the Koran in one hand and a weapon in the other -- embarked upon a sacred holy war against the aggressors. The savage behavior of the occupying forces and their internal mercenaries toward the innocent people in the villages -- such as large-scale bombardment, use of all kinds of modern equipment for murdering, and tactics such as torture and execution -- not only failed to frighten the Muslim selfless Afghans, but caused these Muslim valiants to continue their liberation battle with more determination and iron will. The wave of the Islamic uprising of the people of Afghanistan has caused the political and military defeat of the occupying forces and has forced them to resort to every means and to search for a political solution to the issue, to be able to leave Afghanistan honorably.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while condemning the Eastern superpower's military aggression and paying tribute to the heroic struggle of the Muslim Afghans, considers any negotiations without the presence of the true representatives of the Afghan people ineffective and to the advantage of the world suppressor, and calls once again for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, with no replacement of these occupying forces by another oppressor power, the return of millions of Afghan refugees to their country, and the right of the Muslim people of Afghanistan to determine their destiny, as the only solution to the Afghanistan issue.

The Muslim people of Iran, who have witnessed the occupation of the forces of the American Saddam of this Islamic land, understand the depth of the tragedy of the occupation of Afghanistan. As they were able to expel the aggressor Saddamist forces from Iran through struggle and unity of word, so they hope the Muslim and valiant people of Afghanistan -- through hoisting the Islamic revolution's flag and clinging to God's rope, and in continuing that sacred jihad -- also will achieve final victory, thus proving this auspicious verse: And we wished to be gracious to those who were being depressed in the land, to make them leaders and make them heirs.

[Signed] Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

KHOMEYNI URGES 'DISCRETION' IN FOREIGN RELATIONS

GF261622 Tehran IRNA in English 1900 GMT 25 Dec 82

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tehran, Dec 25, IRNA -- The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, today reminded the Iranian foreign minister, Dr 'Ali-Akbar Velayati, that the Islamic Republic would welcome opportunities for expanding its relations with countries which do not intend to exploit Iran but should exercise a certain degree of discretion in dealing with those foreign powers which might want to take unfair advantage of the Islamic Republic or make the country dependent.

The following is a translation from the text of the imam's speech to the visiting foreign minister who was also accompanied by a number of the Iranian ambassadors and charge d'affaires abroad, in his meeting with the imam here today.

"In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like to thank you for having come here in order that we may converse together. You already know that the Foreign Ministry is one which, once duly Islamicised, is capable of displaying to the outside world, our Islamic entity better than any other of our ministries. But likewise it is capable of inflicting severe blows to our country, as did our embassies abroad or the foreign embassies here in the past. This is true because our ministry is in contact with an entire world which possesses an array of exotic thoughts and ideas, and comes in contact with all sorts of people in carrying out its functions.

"I am conscious that to rectify our Foreign Ministry as well as our other ministries and our government organs and their affiliates would take time, but then as long as we have decided to remain on our feet, independent of others, and as long as we have decided to safeguard our own dignity we are then equipped with a determination which God willing, will improve our every affair. And as long as you are treading a right path along which you implore the Almighty to launch you in your daily prayers every day, then you are certain to attain the desired result. So the principal idea is the task of finding one's way and the course of one's line, and once man has done so it would be less difficult to keep on treading that course. Once a person is wandering in a wilderness without a sense of orientation, he goes here and there without purpose, and he is not likely to reach his destination. But once he has found the right course he will reach his destination. This is equally true with spiritual as well as non-spiritual goals. But our concern now is one within the realm of spirituality; after the people established an Islamic government here, they became aware of a conscious need for enhancing their moral rectitude, and therefore our principal concern should now naturally bear upon the point of spirituality.

"You are treading a course towards the divine objectives if your ministry and your ambassadors abroad be treading the right path of Islam. In order to tread a course to a divine objective, one needs not act as a hermit and profess his intention to do so. No, the course unto a divine objective is those which were trodden by prophets and especially by Prophet Muhammad (Saw), and our innocent imams, for they would participate in battles, they would kill and bear witness to the killing of their men, and ruled, while they were treading the very path to a divine objective. So progress to the goal, as did for example Imam Ali (As), was not made solely during specific engagements, such as when performing his prayers and stopping short in other occasions. That is why Prophet Mohammad (Saw) says that the stroke of Imam Ali's (As) sword in the battle of Khandaq is an act even nobler than the worshipping of God by men and jinns. Once we are determined to impart spiritual values to our material work-a-day affairs, and once we have set a divine goal even in attaining our otherwise material pursuits, then we shall have trodden a divine path.

"Naturally this is a difficult task, but not an impossible one. Once man tackles the task he is bound to succeed. The nation's triumph over the corrupt regime of the past is just one example of the realization of such a determination. It was unimaginable that a nation armed with no weapons could triumph in its confrontation with a ruling government which possessed every sort of suppressive paraphernalia. Those who believed with certainty that the venture would be futile urged others to give up, but a people who had decided to challenge a ruling power and enter the scene, did so and ended victoriously. The people have fulfilled an undertaking whose scopes we cannot just define. Later God guided us as we took each step. The blessed and supreme lord illuminated the course ahead of us. He shed light upon the darkness, and prevented the people from losing impetus. And that is how our people found their way and were guided in the right path, and that is how Iran, thanks be to God, found its proper path and why it is treading it.

"I hope this nation will proceed with added firmness each and every day, and I hope the people will continue treading their course. I hope our embassies abroad, too, will tread the same course of humane ethics, and that an effort will be made in order to curb their falling under the sway of foreign people, and that other people will not impose other courses on our embassies. I hope whatever the people of our embassies do they will continuously ask themselves whether as a result of what they are doing they are treading to "dependence" or "independence and freedom".

"We should maintain our relations with those of the foreign countries which do not intend to "devour" us but we need not have any relations with those who might want to make us dependent by exploiting their relations with us. We should be discreet in our dealings with them and remember at all times that we are committed to treading a course which will ensure our becoming self-sufficient. We are determined to become self-sufficient. We are looking forward to a self-sufficiency whereby we will not need to import wheat, or food, or clothing or other items; and this is a task part of which should be fulfilled in a long-range planning and part of which has to be fulfilled in short term.

"Naturally as regards weapons, the topic is a little more complicated, but despite that we have already achieved a lot even in this field. It is expected of each and every one to put his back into fulfilling the tasks ahead of him and it is expected of the people and the government to infuse their endeavours and make an effort to carry out every task without reliance on foreigners. I hope you will all succeed in your tasks and will be aided by the Almighty.

"May the peace and the mercy of God and His blessing be upon you all."

KHOMEYNI MESSAGE TO MEMBERS OF NEW HEADQUARTERS

LD252226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Dec 82

[Text] Following the imam of the nation's historic and revolutionary decree containing eight articles and the formation of the central headquarters for the implementation of the imam's decree, a message was issued by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed to this headquarters' members. The text of the message, which we received a few moments ago, is:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Their Excellencies Hojaj-e Eslam and Messrs Musavi-Ardabili, the president of the Supreme Court; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; Emami-Kashani, president of the administrative tribunal; Mohaqeq-e Damad, state inspector general; Nateq-Nuri, interior minister; and Aqazadeh, minister of state, by a majority vote have the right to dismiss an offender or offenders after indentification.

I beg the Almighty to grant success to these gentlemen.

[Signed] Rohollah Musavi Khomeyni, 25 December 1982

OFFICE TO IMPLEMENT IMAM'S DECREE MEETS 25 DEC

GF260636 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Text] The central headquarters for the implementation of the imam's decree met last night in the presence of Musavi-Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court, and Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister. Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also was present at this meeting.

The means of putting the imam's decree into action and quickly ending the present infringements were discussed. After reading and studying reports and files, the following decisions were made.

1. The administer of financial assistance at the Labor Ministry and the prosecutor in the Labor Ministry are ordered to appear in court for issuing an illegal arrest order in the ministry and other infringements that have occurred in the ministry.

2. The head of the Islamic revolution guards in Bukan is ordered to appear in court to explain how the Majlis elections were carried out in this city.

3. The prosecutor in Ilam is ordered to appear in court for participating in activities outside the realm of his responsibility.

4. The prosecutor in mayor's office in Tehran is ordered to appear in court for improprieties.

5. The revolution prosecutor in Qom is ordered to appear in court for participating in activities outside the realm of his responsibility.

6. Twenty groups comprised of representatives of the judicial, executive and religious branches are to be formed and to be sent all over the country as quickly as possible to investigate complaints and infringements with the help of Friday imams and civilians and by relying on the people of the areas.

7. The office of the central headquarters is to be housed on Karimkhan-e Zand Street, near Iranshahr Street, and fellow countrymen can send their complaints that fall within the scope of the imam's decree to this office beginning Tuesday, 28 December.

Musavi-Ardabili Remarks

LD271026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 27 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Our correspondent reports that a meeting was held last night at the central headquarters for the enforcement of the imam's eight-point decree. Participants included Musavi-Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court, and Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister.

Tasks entrusted to the delegations appointed to follow up the imam's decree were explained in detail. Delegations appointed by the headquarters have been entrusted with the task of investigating offenses and misconduct committed by various government departments and revolution foundations throughout the country.

In his opening remarks, Musavi-Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court, elaborated on the imam of the nation's historic decree and on the tasks entrusted to the delegations. While stressing the importance of cooperation between members of delegations with the Friday imams throughout the country, Musavi-Ardabili expressed the view that the concept of the imam's decree will be promoted if a correct and logical path could be pursued in selecting members for the delegations. Islam in its true sense would thus be observed throughout the country.

Continuing, the president of the Supreme Court said that despite the importance of a continued fight against counterrevolutionaries in the regime of the Islamic Republic, one can rely on the power of sword only to a certain degree. In other cases, reliance should be on justice, logic, faith and knowledge. While counterrevolutionaries, spies and individuals not supporting this revolution should not be allowed to become more hopeful, the feeling that an individual's fear is caused by justice, not the sword, ought to be encouraged and promoted.

Prime Minister Musavi and a member of the headquarters later spoke on aspects of the imam's decree. The former said that the imam's historic decree and measures to enforce it means that any misuse of power in society should be removed and its seeds at any level should be destroyed. Musavi added that now is the best time to carry out these measures; their implementation requires some degree of frankness.

Continuing his remarks, Musavi elaborated on the policy to be pursued by the headquarters responsible for the enforcement of the imam's decree in dealing with the offenders: We believe that if such policy is correctly explained to the nation and correctly enforced, the government, the judiciary and the revolutionary conditions will not be weakened. In fact, such policy will cause all the Islamic Republic's organs to become stronger.

According to our correspondent, members of the delegations to be dispatched to various parts of the country to enforce the imam of the nation's decree will be comprised of three people: a committed clergyman and representatives of the judiciary and of the executive. If necessary, the number of members in each delegation can be increased. These delegations will carry out their tasks under the supervision of the central headquarters for the enforcement of the imam's decree.

MUSAVI COMMENTS ON 26 DECEMBER CABINET SESSION

LD270000 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Text] Tehran, Dec 24, IRNA -- Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi (?today said) the implementation of the recent decree of Imam Khomeyni will help strengthen the various organisations of the Islamic Republic and increase the trust as well as peace among the people.

Speaking after today's Cabinet session, the prime minister said the counterrevolution has persistently attempted to exploit the message of the imam to attain its satanic ends, but the vigilant Iranian nation would counter these plots as it has always [word indistinct].

He said the people who had been summoned vis-a-vis their violations, were called due to their transgressions beyond limits of the law, such as: preferring their own discretion to that of the country's policies, and interfering in other organisations' affairs. He added that the headquarters set up in that connection, will deal decisively with violators.

The prime minister also commented on subjects brought up in the Cabinet session today, such as the regional situation, superpowers presence in the region, and that of the U.S. and NATO members in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf regions along with intrigues in the Western press which have urged NATO countries to aid Iraq and block Iran's progress referring to a recent (?London) TIMES article.

He also commented on the Iranian Islamic combatants' determination to continue the war.

DECREE OFFICE DISMISSES QOM, TEHRAN OFFICIALS

LD271044 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Dec 82

[From the news headlines]

[Text] On the order of the central headquarters responsible for the enforcement of the imam's decree, the Qom Islamic revolution prosecutor, a Labor Ministry financial and executive under secretary, and the representative of the prosecutor general in Tehran municipality were dismissed and their cases referred to the courts.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 1,161

LD231742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,161 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Our dear compatriots are hereby informed of the situation prevailing on the fronts of the imposed war.

During the past 24 hours on most border fronts in Kordestan, Ilam and Bakhtaran, an exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued between the combatants of Islam and enemy mercenaries. These exchanges were especially intense in the Nowsud sector. Enemy losses and casualties on those fronts included the destruction of 3 trucks and 1 engineering vehicle and 25 dead or injured. A Saddamist position was brought under the Islam combatants' heavy fire, resulting in the damaging of a large number of Iraqi vehicles.

On the Marivan front, the combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions stationed in the Panjwin region, killing or injuring a number of Saddamist mercenaries, as well as destroying three enemy heavy weapons bunkers. In the [word indistinct] an Iraqi air defense post and one bunker were destroyed and their personnel killed. Our forces halted Iraqi traffic on all axes of that region.

On the southern fronts, the combatants of Islam continued to defend and consolidate their protective and defensive positions.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the heroes of the Navy and the valiants of the Gendarmerie while defending their positions opened fire on enemy concentrations across the Arvand Rud, inflicting losses and casualties. On the basis of a Gendarmerie report, the Iraqi troops' losses and casualties on those fronts included three observation posts, four machinegun and other weapons bunkers destroyed and a number of Saddamist troops killed or injured. As a result of Gendarmerie fire on the Al-Faw-Basra supply axis, Iraqi military traffic was brought to a halt.

The criminal Saddamist mercenaries yesterday had Abadan and Khorramshahr under their artillery and other heavy weapons fire. Three houses and two shops in Abadan were destroyed; one of our dear compatriots was martyred and four others were injured in Khorramshahr.

The combatants of Islam yesterday repulsed all enemy aircraft trying to violate our airspace.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,162

LD241800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,162 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With condolences on the martyrdom anniversary of His Holiness Imam Hasan al-'Askari, peace be upon him, a summary of the developments on the battlefronts are brought to your attention:

In the past 24 hours on all border fronts -- the Ilam region, Qasr-e Shirin, Bakhtaran and the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational zone -- exchanges of heavy weapons fire continued with our forces enjoying superiority. The artillery units and the combatants based on the frontlines opened fire on the enemy's positions, trenches and installations. By firing against their batteries, they silenced the enemy's artillery and stopped the mercenaries' attempts to construct earthworks, to mine fields and to dig trenches. The enemy also suffered casualties; a number of trenches, two mortar launchers and one command jeep were destroyed. By opening fire on the aggressors' supply lines, the movements of the Saddamist forces were stopped.

Exchanges of fire continued in the Paveh area and our combatants shelled the enemy's concentration centers and installations on the other side of the border and stopped the movements of the Iraqi soldiers.

On the country's southern fronts and in the Moharram operational zone, the victorious combatants of Islam yesterday defended their positions and returned the enemy's fire. On the (Pol-e Now) and (Zubaydat) fronts, exchanges of fire were more intense.

In the Abadan area, our combatants set fire to four enemy slit trenches, two observation posts, and one mortar launcher emplacement; they killed a number of Iraqi soldiers.

The city of Abadan yesterday came under the heavy and long-range weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals. As a result, three of our compatriots were wounded, two houses were destroyed and fire broke out in parts of the city.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,163

LD251740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,163 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, fighting continued on the country's western fronts between the victorious combatants of Islam and the mercenaries of the Zionist regime of Iraq.

The intensity of the exchanges of fire on border regions near [name indistinct] was more than on the other fronts. As a result of artillery and heavy weapons fire of the combatants of the Ground Forces, one mortar belonging to the Saddamist forces was destroyed and a number of their personnel were killed or wounded. In the Marivan region, the combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions and fortifications and succeeded in silencing the enemy fire and inflicting damages and casualties on them. The powerful warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran stationed on the southern fronts continued to organize their defense positions, consolidated their respective positions, returned the fire of the mercenary Iraqi forces and continued the battle. The Gendarmerie heroes stationed on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts returned the fire of the Saddamists stationed on the other side of the Arvand Rud and stopped the Saddamist forces from making any moves. By stopping the fire of the enemy mercenaries' heavy and light weapons, our forces succeeded in killing a number of them and setting fire to an enemy ammunition depot, thus preventing enemy forces from moving along the al-faw-Basra axis. The Saddamist mercenaries yesterday opened sporadic artillery and heavy weapons fire on residential areas in Abadan and Khorramshahr, wounding two of our dear compatriots in Khorramshahr and demolishing two houses in Abadan. All violations of Iranian airspace by Iraqi forces also were foiled by our selfless Air Force personnel and the antiaircraft defense units.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,164

LD261802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Dec 82

[Communique No 1,164 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. According to reports received from the battlefronts, during the past 24 hours, exchange of fire continued on the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational theater and on the western fronts. On every front, our brave combatants inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces.

As a result of our forces' firing on enemy positions on border fronts in the Ilam and Qasr-e Shirin sectors, two mortars, an ammunition dump and several Iraqi vehicles were destroyed and more than 30 of the enemy were killed.

During an exchange of fire in the Dez Shahpur sector, our forces' artillery fire on enemy positions in the Hargineh and Tutman sectors destroyed two observation posts and halted enemy movements in the (Biyareh) sector.

In the Moharram operational theater and on the southern fronts, the enemy artillery fire was silenced by the artillery fire of the Iranian Ground Forces. In these sectors, the combative forces of Islam stopped all the activities of the enemy's armored and infantry units. Their timely firing disrupts enemy engineering activities and ground operations, which recently have been stepped up.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational sector, the Gendarmerie forces destroyed eight enemy slit trenches and a border post with their heavy weapons fire. In the same sector, the brave naval forces brought an enemy staging area under fire, destroying two slit trenches. As a result of these operations, several Iraqi forces were killed or wounded.

The long-range enemy fire on the residential areas of Abadan yesterday injured one of our compatriots. Also, three houses were destroyed and a (?primary school) building was damaged.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran